

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 XMB-02 OPIC-03 /122 W
-----072831 171829Z /43

P 171645Z FEB 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6129
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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USMTN
ACTION STR AND PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAG:S ETRD, MTN, PL
SUBJECT: MTN-BILATERAL MEETING WITH POLAND

1. USDEL (CULBERT, MIMS) MET WITH POLISH DEL (KRZYSZTOFOWICZ, KACKI) ON FEB 16 TO DISCUSS THE U.S. OFFER AND THE STATUS OF POLAND'S RESPONSE TO U.S. REQUESTS.
2. USDEL OUTLINED BENEFITS OF U.S. OFFER TO POLAND, SUCH AS FACT THAT 54 PCT OF NON-AGRICULTURE DUTIABLE IMPORTS FROM POLAND ARE OFFERED FORMULA OR GREATER THAN FORMULA CUTS, INCLUDING \$9 MILLION OF STEEL PLATE AND SHEET, \$8.7 MILLION OF BRADS AND NAILS, AND \$5.7 MILLION OF BENTWOOD FURNITURE AND PARTS. WE ACKNOWLEDGED THE U.S. OFFER ON AGRICULTURAL ITEMS IS NOT IMPRESSIVE, LARGELY BECAUSE CANNED HAMS (91 PERCENT OF U.S. DUTIABLE AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS FROM POLAND) WERE NOT REQUESTED BY

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THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER (EEC).

3. USDEL SAID U.S. WAS NOT ASKING MUCH FROM POLAND IN RETURN FOR BENEFITS IT COULD EXPECT FROM OUR TARIFF OFFER. OUR NTM REQUESTS WERE LARGELY FOR ADDITIONAL STATISTICS AND INFORMATION PLUS A CHANGE IN THE REPRESENTATIONAL EXCHANGE RATE AND LIBERALIZATION OF TRANS-

PORT INSURANCE.

4. THE POLES SAID THAT THEY THOUGHT THAT THEIR RESPONSE TO U.S. REQUESTS WOULD BE ARRIVING SOON ("WITHIN A MONTH") AND THOUGHT THEIR RESPONSE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. WITH REGARD TO THE EXCHANGE RATE PROBLEM, THEY SAID THAT "SOMETHING HAS BEEN DONE," AND THEY WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO TELL US SOON.

5. THE QUESTION OF THE U.S. OFFER ON VODKA AROSE, SINCE POLAND IS THE NUMBER TWO SUPPLIER BEHIND THE USSR, AND OUR OFFER INDICATES IT WAS NOT REQUESTED BY PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER. SINCE USSR IS SUBJECT TO THE COLUMN TWO RATE, THIS COULD BE A VALUABLE ITEM FOR POLAND IF WE MADE AN OFFER, EVEN THOUGH TRADE IS SMALL. FOR WASHINGTON: PLEASE ADVISE IF AN OFFER ON THIS ITEM IS POSSIBLE GIVEN FACT THAT PRINCIPAL SUPPLIER IS NON-PARTICIPANT IN MTN AND SUBJECT TO COLUMN TWO RATES.

6. USDEL ALSO MADE THE POINT THAT WE WILL BE VERY BUSY OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WITH THE EEC, JAPAN, AND CANADA, AND IF COUNTRIES LIKE POLAND DO NOT RESPOND QUICKLY TO OUR REQUESTS, AND DO NOT FORMULATE THEIR OWN REQUESTS IN MORE SPECIFIC TERMS, THE MTN MAY REACH AN AGREEMENT WITHOUT TAKING THEIR INTERESTS FULLY INTO ACCOUNT. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE U.S. OFFER IS ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TABLE, AND FOR IT TO BE MAINTAINED VIS-A-VIS POLAND, THEY MUST ACT.

7. POLES SAID THEY UNDERSTOOD THIS, AND SUGGESTED THAT SOME OF OUR REQUESTS MAY BE BETTER TAKEN CARE OF BILATERALLY, SUCH AS OUR REQUEST FOR BOP DATA AND TRADE STATISTICS.

8. DRAFTED BY MIMS. MCDONALD

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NNN

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